

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING JULY 6, 2021

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Monday, July 6, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Howard County Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Paul Wyman, Vice-President Robert B. Bray, Member Jack Dodd, County Attorney Alan Wilson and County Auditor Jessica Secrease.

The meeting was called to order by Lieutenant Todd Prifogle and conducted by President Paul Wyman. Commissioner Bray led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Deputy Ezekiel Zimmerman offered a word of prayer.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of June 21, 2021, regular meeting having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd, Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The minutes of June 7, 2021, regular meeting having been previously submitted and reviewed, has been revised were approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Bray, Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS & REPORTS:

HOWARD COUNTY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:

Trane BCU Upgrade(Automation and Controls):

Maintenance Superintendent Bill Stonestreet, submitted the BCU Upgrade for the Courthouse for the automation control for heating and cooling, the upgrade will be done by Trane in the amount of \$26,200.00. Mr. Stonestreet would like to pay for this out of Cum Cap Building Upgrades 1138.47243. Trane will be doing the BCU Upgrade for \$26,200.00 and was submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HOWARD COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

CCMG Contract Signatures:

Highway Superintendent Amber Tolle, submitted the CCMG Grant Contract for Signatures. The contract has been approved for Signatures by Howard County Attorney Alan Wilson. The CCMG Grant contract was submitted for Signatures and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

School Bus Turn Around Procedure:

Highway Superintendent Amber Tolle, submitted the agreement for school bus turnarounds, would like to have these changed to a Departmental Agreement. These are residential drives and they have already been approved thru the county highway department. This will allow the busses to turn around in these residential areas. The agreement for the school bus turn arounds was submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:

Street Address Ordinance:

Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman, submitted Ordinance NO. 2021-BCCO-27. This is an ordinance of the Howard County Board of Commissioners to Prescribe Street Address, Number Size and Location. Ordinance NO.2021-BCCO-27 will take effect no later than October 1, 2021 that every house, resident, apartment and business within the borders of Howard County shall have a street address numbers identifying the location. Ordinance NO.2021-BCCO-27 was submitted and approved on a motion made by Commissioner Bray. Commissioner Dodd seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Commissioner Bray stated that both the Greentown and Russiaville fire departments do make the green sign with white letters for the mailbox signs for a fee.

Draft- Solar Ordinance:

Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman, submitted the draft Ordinance NO. 2021-BCCO-28 the Board of Commissioners of Howard County Ordinance Concerning Solar Energy Systems. There will be a 10-day public comment period where the public can email questions and comments to publiccomment@howardcountyin.gov. The

final day for emails will be July 16th, 2021 at 5pm. The ordinance will be made available on the Howard County Web site to view and /or print at howardcountyin.gov.

Resident Brad Semon 10954 E. 100 S. Greentown, IN. Mr. Semon is asking what the difference is between the ordinance being law or an agreement. Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman stated that the agreement is a contract. Mr. Semon stated that an agreement would not be good for the residents of Eastern Howard County.

Resident Clee Oliver 5768 W. 00NS. Kokomo, IN 46901. Mr. Oliver held up a paper ask if anyone had seen this before? Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman stated yes, Mr. Oliver stated that he feels that 80% of the Howard County ordinance came from this one, this paper work was based on the state of Indiana. Mr. Oliver ask what special excepts does this company have to go thru for the BZA? The BZA meeting is still scheduled for this Month, July 27th at the Event Center in Kokomo, In.

Resident Joe (didn't give name or address) ask what will happen at the next BZA meeting? Planning Commissioner Greg Sheline stated that the meeting will follow the same format as the previous meeting, as this meeting was just continued for a period of 30 days. Mr. Joe stated how disappointed he is as the usage and spread of solar companies and how the ordinance is basically inviting companies in to the county, there is no indication that there is any concern for the citizens of Howard County.

Resident Merrill Swisher 11877 E. 100 S. Greentown, IN 46936. Mr. Swisher stated that he is concerned about the vibrations that will be going on by these beams that are going to be put in the ground west, east and south of his property. Mr. Swisher is concerned about the hours that the company will be working, if it is around the clock or will they only work eight - four. Mr. Swisher ask what if once the company has completed work and I find a crack in my basement wall, will this be my problem or their problem? Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman stated that in the ordinance that they have stated that there will be a two hundred foot set back and that is what the solar company has agreed too, and that is what was approve. So, the solar company kept their promise on this. Mr. Swisher stated that was just one item, how will my computer system, phone system works afterwards? Mr. Swisher stated that he feels like there is no consideration for myself or my neighbors.

Resident Brad Semon 10954 E. 100 S. Greentown, IN. 46936. Mr. Semon ask what is the next step for the draft ordinance? Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman stated that after the ten days of public review and comment time frame the comments will be reviewed, and draft ordinance will be presented to the Commissioners again and have public discussion, then we will move toward a final ordinance. Mr. Wyman stated that if this company gets the special exception that is the very beginning of this process. Mr. Wyman also stated that all of the agreements are public documents, these agreements will not just be signed and put in to effect, everyone of the ordinance come before the public and is reviewed by the public and then voted on in a public meeting. A motion was submitted and approved to release the draft Ordinance NO. 2021-BCCO-28 to the public with a ten-day public comment period with the email address to be used as publiccomment@howardcountyin.gov made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS AND REPORTS:

Howard County Auditor Jessica Secrease submitted the following claims and reports for the Commissioners' information and approval:

1. **Salary Claims:** The Commissioners' Salary, Hourly, and Overtime Claims for payment on June 18, 2021 in the amount of \$867,698.32 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
2. **Operating Claims:** The Commissioners' Operating Claims to be paid July 6, 2021. in the amount of \$900,491.96 was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY ISSUES:

Attorney Alan Wilson, submitted the Resolution No. 2021- BCCR -9 for consideration, this is a Resolution of the Howard County Board of Commissioners to Purchase Columbian Elementary School from the Kokomo School Corporation Pursuant to IC 36-1-11-8 in the amount of \$200,000.00, this will be used as a drop-in center for Turning Point. A motion was made by Commissioner Dodd to approve Resolution No. 2021- BCCR - 9 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bray, and motion carried. Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman abstained for any vote due to Mr. Wyman serving on Turning Point's Board of Directors.

Attorney Alan Wilson, submitted the purchase agreement from the Kokomo School Corporation Attorney for the purchase of Columbian Elementary School from the Kokomo School Corporation, this will be subject to the final review of Attorney Alan Wilson's approval. The purchase of Columbian Elementary School is subject to the final review of Attorney Alan Wilson was submitted and approved as presented on a motion made by Commissioner Dodd. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman abstained for any vote due to Mr. Wyman serving on Turning Point's Board of Directors.

COMMISSIONER ISSUE:

Commissioner Bray, requested prayers for firefighter LaCaille's family as his wife passed this week.

Commissioner Dodd, congratulated everyone that was involved in putting on the Haynes Apperson Festival.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Clee Oliver 5768 W. 00NS. Kokomo, IN 46901, Mr. Oliver stated that there is an Indiana code 3674920G, that states that a person may not communicate with any BZA members before the hearing because of any intent to influence the members action. I personally contacted Mike Imbler. When I found out that we were not to be making contact, I stopped making contact. My understanding was that ING. has been contacting BZA members also. Board of Commissioners President Paul Wyman stated that the BZA Members are fully aware of not having any conversation or debate with people prior to any public form.

*There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners
at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m. on a motion
made by Commissioner Bray, seconded by Commissioner Dodd, and carried.*

HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

PAUL G. WYMAN, PRESIDENT

ROBERT B. BRAY, VICE PRESIDENT

JACK W. DODD, MEMBER

ATTEST:

JESSICA SECREASE, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Meeting, July 6, 2021